

(b) if so, the details thereof including the terms of reference, composition and tenure of the proposed team; and

(c) by when the team is likely to submit its findings to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO):

(a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Contingency plan to deal with emergency situation

1129. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any exercise to review the 1979 contingency plan to deal with emergency situation like the one of recent devastating terrorists attacks on the US cities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO):

(a) and (b) In the light of terrorist attacks on US cities, the internal security situation has been re-assessed and State Governments/UT Administrations have also been advised to update their contingency plans.

Pension to freedom fighters

†1130. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing pension to freedom fighters at present;

(b) if so, the amount of pension being paid to each of the freedom fighters, State-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the details of other facilities being provided to the freedom fighters at present by the Central and State Governments in addition to pension; and

(d) the number of eldest and youngest freedom fighters amongst them separately and the years since when they are getting pensions alongwith the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount of pension paid to different categories of freedom fighters uniformly in all States/Union Territories under the "Swatantrata Sainik Samman pension Scheme, 1980" is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) Details of facilities available to freedom fighters drawing pension from the Central Government are as under:

- (i) Free railway pass (1st Class/AC 2 Tier Sleeper) for freedom fighter/spouse with an attendant for life.
- (ii) Free medical facilities in all the Central Government hospitals and also in the Hospitals run by the PSUs under the control of Bureau of Public Enterprises. CGHS facilities have also been extended to freedom fighters and their dependents.
- (iii) Telephone connection, subject to feasibility, without installation charges and payment of only half of the rentals.
- (iv) General pool residential accommodation to freedom fighters in Delhi in the national interest. Spouse of freedom fighter is

permitted to retain the accommodation for a period of six months after the death of the freedom fighter.

(v) Accommodation in the Freedom Fighter's Home set up at Baba Kharak Singh Marg, New Delhi for the freedom fighters who have none to look after them.

(vi) Two per cent dealership/distributorship of Petroleum Products allotted through Dealer Selection Boards are reserved for freedom fighters.

(vii) In addition to the above facilities, ex-Andaman political prisoners and their spouses are entitled to the following facilities:-

(a) Free voyage facility to visit Port Blair once a year alongwith companion.

(b) Free air travel facility to visit Port Blair once a year from Chennai/Kolkata along with companion;

(c) Facility to travel in Shatabdi/Rajdhani Express trains alongwith companion.

Besides the above facilities, the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have also extended the benefits of pension and other facilities like free travel in State Transport Buses, reservation in jobs for their dependents and reservation of seats in educational Institutions etc. These facilities differ from State to State. Details of all the facilities provided by different State Governments are not maintained by the Central Government.

(d) This information is not maintained by the Government.

Statement

State-wise details of pension paid to freedom-fighters

| Sl. No. | Category | Rate of monthly pension (Rs.) | Dearness Relief @ 24% of the monthly Pension payable with effect from 1.8.2000 (Rs.) | Dearness Relief @ 28% (i.e. 24%+4%) of the monthly Pension payable with effect from 1.8.2001 (Rs.) |
|---------|--|-------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. | (a) Ex-Andaman Political prisoners | 4,000/- | 960/- | 1120/- |
| | (b) Freedom fighters who suffered outside British India (other than INA) | 3,500/- | 840/- | 980/- |
| 2. | Other Freedom Fighters including INA | 3,000/- | 720/- | 840/- |
| 3. | Widow/widower of above categories of freedom fighters | 3,000/- | 720/- | 840/- |
| 4. | Unmarried/unemployed daughters | | | |
| | (c) Eldest daughter | 600/- | 144/- | 168/- |
| | (d) Other two daughters | 350/-each | 84/-each | 98/-each |
| 5. | Mother and Father | 1000 each | 240 each | 280 each |